

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Claim 1 – Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A portable columnar structure comprising:

a columnar coupling structure for providing stability that includes three independent and separate components including a first columnar coupler, a second columnar coupler and a connection adaptor to be placed between said first and second columnar couplers, said first and second columnar couplers forming a part of said portable columnar structure being in the form of furniture parts or strut assemblies to be assembled and disassembled; wherein:

said first columnar coupler comprising a bolt fixture member, on which a bolt is permanently secured to a cylindrical joint end, and a first hollow cylindrical portion at the cylindrical joint end;

said second columnar coupler comprising a nut fixture member, on which a nut having a size that will fit over a male thread of the bolt is secured to a cylindrical joint end, and a second hollow cylindrical portion at the cylindrical joint end; and

said connection adaptor having a first small diameter portion ~~portion~~ and a second small diameter portion, shaped and sized so that said first small diameter portion fits closely in said first hollow cylindrical portion of said first columnar coupler at the cylindrical joint end and said second small diameter portion fits closely in said second hollow cylindrical portion of said first columnar coupler at the cylindrical joint end, respectively, said connection adaptor having a bolt

through hole formed into which said bolt is inserted, and an annular projection of a greater diameter than inner diameters of said first and second columnar couplers provided at an intermediate portion, and

wherein said first and second columnar couplers are interconnected with said connection adaptor positioned in between.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The portable columnar structure according to claim 8, wherein in said first and second columnar couplers, said first and second hollow cylindrical portions are formed at least in the vicinities of the joint ends so as to be closely fitted over said first and second small diameter portions of said connection adaptor.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The portable columnar structure according to claim 9, wherein at least one of said first and second hollow cylindrical portions of said first and second columnar couplers has a circular cross section.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The portable columnar structure according to claim 8, wherein ends of said first and second smaller diameter portions of said connection adaptor are chamfered so that an assembly process can be easily performed.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The portable columnar structure according to claim 8, wherein a material used for said connection adaptor is aluminum, reinforced plastic or foundry die casting.